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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TELEPHONE
Memorandum of Conversation

RESTRICTED SECURITY INFORMATION

DATE: May 27, 1953

SUBJECT: Rumored Soviet Demands on Finland

PARTICIPANTS: Honorable Charles J. Kersten, (R), from Wisconsin

(1) Mr. Ronhovde - BNA

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Congressman Charles Kersten, (R), Wisconsin, telephoned to ask what we knew about a story which appeared in the May 14 issue of a New York Czech language newspaper to the effect that the Soviets were about to demand the following from Finland:

Right to station 100,000 Soviet troops;
Three new ports in southwest Finland;
Twenty-two Soviet airfields in Finland.

I said I had heard nothing about this story, which he said was a reprint of a German press editorial. The Congressman said he would send me the press clipping and asked if I could check with Minister McFall in Helsinki. I cautioned him that there had been many rumors in the past about Soviet intentions regarding Finland but that we would try to run this one down to see what there may be in it.

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